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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING A PROGRESS REPORT AND PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF U.S.  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANIMAL QUARANTINE STATION.

1 WHEREAS, for more than 100 years, the Department of  
2 Agriculture, through its Animal Quarantine Station program, has  
3 kept Hawaii free of rabies; and  
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5 WHEREAS, current Department of Agriculture rules require  
6 dogs, cats, and other carnivores originating from the United  
7 States and other non-exempted areas, upon arrival in the State,  
8 to be confined to the Animal Quarantine Station for a period up  
9 to 120 days to prevent the introduction of rabies; and  
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11 WHEREAS, there are long-standing concerns relating to the  
12 Animal Quarantine Station facilities, including cement floors  
13 that may harbor bacteria, absence of air conditioning, size of  
14 the animal pens, and exposure of quarantined animals to direct  
15 sunlight and heat for long periods of time; and  
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17 WHEREAS, concerns have also been raised about the  
18 sensitivity levels of Animal Quarantine Station employees and  
19 the need for ongoing training since employees are tasked to be  
20 the caretakers of and are in frequent, direct contact with  
21 quarantined animals; and  
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23 WHEREAS, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of  
24 the United States Department of Agriculture is responsible for  
25 enforcing the Animal Welfare Act that establishes standards of  
26 care and treatment for certain warm blooded animals in specified  
27 situations; and  
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29 WHEREAS, in 2014, at the invitation of the Department of  
30 Agriculture, an inspector from the Animal and Plant Health  
31 Inspection Service performed a review of the facilities at the  
32 Animal Quarantine Station; and



1 WHEREAS, recommendations made by the inspector are being  
2 used to prioritize and implement facility improvements at the  
3 Animal Quarantine Station; now, therefore,  
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
6 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
7 Session of 2015, that the Department of Agriculture is requested  
8 to submit a report to the Legislature no later than twenty days  
9 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2016, on the  
10 Department of Agriculture's progress and plan for implementing  
11 the recommendations of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection  
12 Service inspection for the Animal Quarantine Station, including:  
13

- 14 (1) Actions taken and an implementation timeline from the  
15 Department;  
16  
17 (2) Funding requirements and proposed legislation, if any;  
18 and  
19  
20 (3) Any other matters pertinent to improving quarantine  
21 facilities and procedures; and  
22

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
24 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the  
25 Board of Agriculture, and the Program Manager of the Animal  
26 Quarantine Branch.

